

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 35, 36, and 45 - 47 were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to including all limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims, and claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 34, 37 - 44, 48, and 49 were noted as rejected.

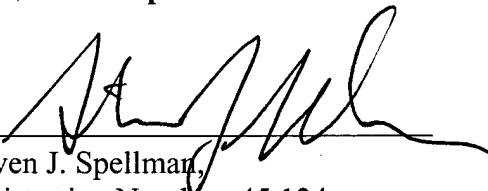
Claims 9, 10, 13, 17, and 45 - 46 have been amended to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims 33. As such, claims 9, 10, 13, 17, and 45 - 46 are believed to be allowable, and such allowance is respectfully requested. Claim 14 depends from amended claim 13, and is believed to allowable at least based on this dependence. Claim 47 depends from amended claim 46, and is believed to allowable at least based on this dependence.

Claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 36, 37 - 44, 48, and 49 have been canceled. The cancellation of claim 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 36, 37 - 44, 48, and 49 should in no way be interpreted as acquiescence to any reasons for rejection of claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 34, 37 - 44, 48, and 49 set forth by the Office. Rather, Applicants are canceling claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 36, 37 - 44, 48, and 49 at the present time solely in an effort to move the present application more quickly to issuance. Applicants will be presenting claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 36, 37 - 44, 48, and 49, in some form, in a continuation application. The Office's reasons for rejection of claims 1 - 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 - 34, 37 - 44, 48, and 49 will be addressed and traversed in the course of prosecution of the continuation application.

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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